

SUBUD USA CARE SUPPORT SERVICES

with thanks to Shoshanah Margolin, who originally created much of this content.

Care Support is not a new service. Subud USA has provided care support to its members for some time. Formerly, it was called the Almoners. The service provides a grant for a member who is having a serious financial difficulty and who has exhausted all other avenues of help. Any active Subud member is eligible to receive this aid. *Please note: Funds are disbursed to third-party providers only (e.g. a landlord, health care provider, utility company, etc. We are not able to make payments directly to members.)*

If such an emergency exists, the first step is for the member to test with the local helpers about whether it is correct to apply to Care Support for financial assistance. If the member is not part of a group or center, then the regional helpers can be contacted. The helpers involved are asked to speak with the member about the situation to understand relevant facts and background; to determine if local public and private resources have been considered; and to test whether it is appropriate to forward the request to the national committee/national helpers for consideration.

For ongoing needs, we encourage members to apply for all available state and federal resources, e.g. unemployment benefits, food stamps, Medicaid, etc.

If the testing is positive, then one of the helpers who participated in the testing should complete the **Care Support form**.

Those in urgent need may submit the form before contacting their local/regional helpers.

Subud USA will then forward the application to the local/regional helpers on the member's behalf.

Once testing has been done at the local or regional level, the national helpers will reconfirm through testing that it is correct to grant the needed funds. Subud USA will then issue a check to the service provider on the member's behalf.

We know that these are difficult times. Unfortunately, Care Support is not able to provide on-going financial assistance for Subud members. We hope that you will be able to find more permanent resources to help meet your long-term needs. Please do not hesitate to reach out to the Care Support Fund to help ease your financial needs in the meantime. Once the Care Support Team has received your **completed** application, those involved are committed to responding to your request both quickly and confidentially.

We hope that you never encounter the circumstances that would cause you to need financial support. However, if you do, we hope you will feel comfortable contacting us.